

**REMARKS**

The claims have been amended to eliminate multiple dependent claims, without prejudice, to reduce the filing fees.

The specification has been amended to include a cross reference to the parent applications and to add an Abstract.

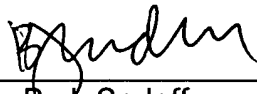
Acceptance of the attached formal drawings is requested.

An early and favorable Action on the merits of the claimed invention is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
B.J. Sadoff  
Reg. No. 36,663

BJS:jsm  
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22203-1808  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100